



MILITARY FAMILY ASSISTANCE BOARD

Meeting Minutes
October 30, 2012

I. Call to Order

The Military Family Assistance Board (MFAB) Meeting was called to order by Secretary Lane Carson, Chairman, at 10:05 a.m. on October 30, 2012, at the Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs (LDVA) Administrative Office.

II. Pledge/Opening Prayer

The pledge of allegiance was led by Evans Spiceland; prayer by Precilla Wilkewitz;

III. Roll Call

Roll call by Amy Cannizaro Burris; 6 of 11 members present;

MFAB Members present: Secretary Lane Carson, Mike McNaughton, Brian Jakes, Laura Lapeze, Precilla Wilkewitz, and Evans Spiceland.

LDVA Staff present: Al Leger, Robin Keller, David LaCerte and Amy Cannizaro Burris.

IV. Remarks/ Introduction of New Board Member

Secretary Carson thanked members for coming on short notice and explained that an urgent travel request was sent in from the Louisiana National Guard (LANG) and it needed to be approved as soon as possible. Secretary Carson also introduced Ms. Lapeze, who replaced Gary Hall as the designee of the Treasury.

V. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Jakes, seconded by Ms. Wilkewitz, to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2011, meeting as distributed. The motion passed.

VI. MFAF Fund Report

Mr. Leger reported that the Military Family Assistance Fund (MFAF) had a starting balance as of July 1, 2012 of \$571,228.51. Individual donations sent directly to the MFAF this year total \$5,521.80. The amount accrued from the previous tax season has not been added yet. Expenditures for FY 12/13 are \$17,660.58, which includes the expenditures of \$12,485 for 56 LANG reservists travel for leave before deployment. The remaining expenditures were for LDVA outreach and third-party administration. The current balance in the MFAF is \$556,057.28. Mr. Leger reported that 2807 individuals have been assisted since May 2008 and \$423,397.92 has been expended. Of those 2807 individuals assisted, 13 were paid for need-based claims and 33 paid for lump-sum claims.

VII. LANG Travel Request – 256th Infantry Brigade Combat Team

Mr. LaCerte said that a request came in from Captain White of LANG with the Bridge Building Company. It originally came in as a request for a flight for 188 enlisted guardsmen but it changed to a request for passenger busses. The quote is \$39,065.60 for four passenger busses at 56 passengers each. There is a 224 person capacity for 188 guardsmen, so officers will be allowed to fill the extra capacity. The bus will travel from Ft. Leonard Word, Missouri to four drop-off points in Louisiana. Mr. Spiceland made a motion to approve this request, Mr. Jakes seconded. The motion passed.

VII. Other Business

Ms. Keller gave a brief report on the current marketing and promotions of the MFA. Ms. Wilkewitz asked if any LANG personnel from Hurricane Isaac qualify for MFA and Mr. LaCerte stated that they were not activated for long enough.

VIII. Adjournment

It was motioned by Ms. Wilkewitz, seconded by Colonel Spiceland, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 11:14 a.m.

Minutes submitted by: Amy Cannizaro Burris, Confidential Assistant

26-December-2012